

1. Determine whether the following sequences converge or diverge. If it converges, find the limit.

(a) $a_n = \frac{2n^2+1}{n^2+n+1}$

(b) $a_n = \frac{n^4}{10n^3+100n^2+1}$

(c) $a_n = \frac{2^n+3^n}{5^n}$

(d) $a_n = n^3$

(e) $a_n = \cos(n\pi/2)$

2. Determine whether the following limits exist or not. If it converges, find the limit.

(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2+3}{3x^2-4}$

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{9x^2+x} - 3x$

(c) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \ln(x^4+x) - \ln(x^4)$

(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x/(x-1)$

(e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} (x^2-1)/(x-1)$

(f) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (\sqrt{x+6}-x)/(x^3-3x^2)$

(g) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \sin(2x)/x$

(h) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \pi/4} \sin(2x)/x$

(i) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sin(2x)/x$

3. Give an example of a function $f(x)$ where

$$f(1), \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x), \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x)$$

all exists and finite but all different. Is $f(x)$ continuous?

4. (*) Consider the recursive sequence $a_1 = 1$ and $a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(a_n + \frac{3}{a_n})$. Compute the first few terms using calculators. Can you guess the limit? (Hint: compute a_n^2 .) Show that your guess is correct assuming that the limit exists.

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(e) $a_n = \cos(n\pi/2)$

(a) Converges to 2

(b) Diverges to ∞

(c) Converges to 0

(d) Diverges to ∞

(e) The sequence is periodic: $0, -1, 0, 1, 0, -1, 0, 1, \dots$, so the limit does not exist.

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(a) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{x^2+3}{3x^2-4}$

(b) $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{9x^2 + x} - 3x$

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(d) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x/(x - 1)$

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(f) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 3} (\sqrt{x+6} - x)/(x^3 - 3x^2)$

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(a) Converges to $1/3$

(b) Converges to $1/6$

(c) $\ln(x^4 + x) - \ln(x^4) = \ln((x^4 + x)/x^4)$, converges to $\ln(1) = 0$

(d) Limit does not exist.

(e) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 1} x + 1 = 2$.

(f)

$$\frac{\sqrt{x+6}-x}{x^3-3x^2} = \frac{\sqrt{x+6}-x}{x^2(x-3)} = \frac{x+6-x^2}{x^2(x-3)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x+6}+x} = -\frac{x+2}{x^2(\sqrt{x+6}+x)}$$

and this converges to $-5/54$ as $x \rightarrow 3$.

(g) $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} 2 \cdot \sin(2x)/(2x) = 2$

(h) $\sin(2\pi/4)/(\pi/4) = 4/\pi$

(i) We have $-1/x \leq |\sin(2x)/x| \leq 1/x$ for $x > 0$, hence by the squeeze theorem we get $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \sin(2x)/x = 0$.

3. Give an example of a function $f(x)$ where

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all exists and finite but all different. Is $f(x)$ continuous?

Define $f(x)$ as

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x > 1 \\ 0 & x = 1 \\ -1 & x < 1 \end{cases}$$

Then

$$f(1) = 0, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} f(x) = -1, \quad \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^+} f(x) = 1$$

and all of them are different. The function can't be continuous since the limits as $x \rightarrow 1$ and $f(1)$ are different (the limit even does not exist!)

4. (*) Consider the recursive sequence $a_1 = 1$ and $a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(a_n + \frac{3}{a_n})$. Compute the first few terms using calculators. Can you guess the limit? (Hint: compute a_n^2 .) Show that your guess is correct assuming that the limit exists.

First few terms are

$$1, 2, \frac{7}{4}, \frac{97}{56}, \dots$$

and their squares are

$$1, 4, 3.0625, 3.0003, \dots$$

which seems to converge to 3. This is the correct guess: if the limit is α , then it should satisfy

$$\alpha = \frac{1}{2} \left(\alpha + \frac{3}{\alpha} \right) \Leftrightarrow \alpha^2 = 3$$

and since $a_n > 0$ for all n , the only possible choice is $\alpha = \sqrt{3}$. This recursion comes from Newton–Raphson method and can be used to approximate square roots efficiently (once you replace 3 with another number, you get the square root of that number as a limit).